

EFFORTS TO GUARD NEUTRALITY SHOWN

U. S. Government's White Book Gives Diplomatic Correspondence Since May.

REVEALS TO THE PUBLIC DIFFICULTIES ARISING

New Edition Publishes for First Time German Memorandum Regarding Embargo on Arms.

Containing the text of important diplomatic correspondence between the United States and the belligerent governments of Europe, the second installment of the United States government's white book was issued last night by the State Department. The second installment gives all the correspondence between the governments since the issuance of the first installment last May. The book constitutes a public record of the position of the United States as a neutral power in the present war, and a precedent for the future, and the volume reveals to the public a series of charges and countercharges by the belligerents that reflect the difficulties constantly encountered in the delicate task of observing neutrality.

Much of the correspondence never before has been made public in text, although press dispatches have covered most of it in substance.

One of the most interesting features of the new edition is the publication for the first time of a memorandum of the German foreign office referred to in a colloquy between Chairman Flood of the House foreign affairs committee and Representative Bartholdt of Missouri at the hearing on the bill proposing an embargo on arms. Mr. Bartholdt quoted the memorandum as a justification of his argument that the German government did not hold shipments of munitions to the allies as illegal. It appears that the correspondence with the German government conducted by Ambassador von Bernstorff developed as a consequence of a ruling by the United States that it was a violation of neutrality for merchant ships to leave American ports for the express purpose of supplying belligerent warships at sea. The ambassador's note said:

"The position taken by the government of the United States as to the delivery of coal and other necessities to warships of the belligerent states constituting a violation of neutrality is, in the opinion of the imperial German government, untenable in international law. The imperial government has set forth its position on this point in a memorandum which, in compliance with instructions I have the honor to forward to your excellency."

The memorandum follows:

Position of Germany.

"Under the general principles of international law no exception can be taken to neutral states letting war material go to Germany's enemies from their territory. This is in accordance with Article 7 of the Hague convention of October 18, 1907, concerning the rights and duties of neutrals in naval and land warfare. If, however, a state avails itself of that liberty in favor of her enemies, then it must, in accordance with a rule generally accepted in international law and confirmed in Article 9 of the two conventions above cited, place no obstacle to the German military force ordering contraband from or through its territory. . . . In spite thereof, various American port authorities have cleared clearance from American ports to vessels of the merchant marine which would carry needed supplies or fuel to German warships, either on the high seas or in other neutral ports. According to the principles of international law above cited, a neutral state need not prevent furnishing supplies of this character; neither can it, after allowing the adversaries to be furnished with contraband, detain or in any way disable a merchant ship carrying such a cargo. Only when contraband trade would turn the ports into bases of German military operations would the unilateral stoppage of the trade of those vessels become a duty."

"Such, perhaps, would be the case if the Germans kept coal depots in the ports of the United States, or if the port in regular voyages on the way to German naval forces. But it stands to reason that one merchant vessel occasionally sailing with coal or supplies for German warships does not turn a neutral port into a German point of support contrary to neutrality."

"Our enemies draw from the United States contraband of war, especially arms, worth several billions of marks. This in itself they are authorized to do. But if the United States would prevent our warships occasionally drawing supplies from its ports a great injustice grows out of the au-



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thorization, for it would amount to an unequal treatment of the belligerents and constitute a breach of the generally accepted rule of neutrality to Germany's detriment."

Reply of Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State in his reply held that:

"The essential idea of neutral territory becoming the base for naval operations by a belligerent is, in the opinion of this government, repeated departure from such territory of merchant vessels laden with fuel or other supplies for belligerent warships at sea, in order to ascertain the vessels which were thus operating the government has been obliged to investigate certain cases in order that it might determine whether there have been or are about to be repetition of such acts, but in all respects equality of treatment has been observed toward all merchant vessels suspected of carrying supplies to belligerent vessels."

The correspondence shows that the State Department received also a complaint from the British ambassador stating that the "systematic way in which neutral ships have left American ports in order to supply German cruisers, and have been allowed to operate freely in the ports of the United States, in spite of the warnings which have been given in the matter causes grave anxiety to his majesty's government."

Mr. Lansing replied that so far as he was advised:

"Every suspicious case of vessels leaving American ports to supply German cruisers which has been brought to the attention of the United States with any basis of fact to support some such statement has been fairly investigated. The government of the United States, therefore, feels obliged to decline to accept any suggestions intimating that its vigilance in the maintenance of its neutral duties under international law has been relaxed."

Specific Case Mentioned.

On another occasion the German ambassador in complaining to the State Department that the tug F. R. Dalsell put out to sea from New York to carry provisions to the British cruiser Essex, declared that the tug came out "under the searchlights of the U. S. S. Florida."

Mr. Lansing answered this with the statement that the government of the United States had investigated the matter thoroughly and was not able to find sufficient evidence to show that the tug did supply British warships. He asked for further evidence on which to renew the investigation, but this, it appears, was not supplied.

In this connection Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, gave the State Department an extract from a letter written by the admiral in command of the British fleet along the American coast saying "except on one occasion in September last, which formed the basis of the complaint referred to in your telegram, I am satisfied that no attempt has been made to order anything from the United States territory."

A series of communications passed between the British embassy and the State Department. The British ambassador stated that the right of belligerent merchant ships to leave neutral ports prepared to turn at sea. The British embassy stated that with reference to the fitting out on American territory of vessels intended for hostile purposes, Great Britain would "hold the United States government responsible for any damages to British shipping, or injury to British interests generally which may be caused by such vessels having been equipped at, or departing from, United States ports."

The ruling of the State Department that it was permissible for merchant ships to arm for defensive purposes drew forth a note from the British embassy on instructions from the foreign office. The note stated that British merchant vessels will never be used for purposes of attack, that they are merely traders armed only for defense, that they will never fire unless fired upon and that they will never, under any circumstances, attack any vessel."

Not Violation of Neutrality.

The German government in a memorandum transmitted by Ambassador Gerard took exception to the view that merchant vessels were permitted to defend themselves against a war vessel, and argued that it was a question whether or not armed merchant ships "should be admitted into neutral ports at all," the extent of armament being held as affording "no guaranty that ships armed for defensive purposes only will not be used for offensive purposes under certain circumstances."

Mr. Lansing's answer was that the United States held that to permit vessels of small armament to enjoy the hospitality of American ports as merchant vessels was not a violation of neutrality.

"Nevertheless," the American reply added, "the government of the United States is not unmindful of the fact that the circumstances of a particular case may be such as to cause embarrassment and possible controversy as to the character of an armed private vessel visiting its ports. Recognizing, therefore, the desirability of avoiding ground of complaint, this government, as soon as a case arose, while frankly admitting the right of a merchant vessel to carry a defensive armament, expressed its disapproval of a practice which compelled it to pass upon a vessel's intended use, which, in opinion, if proved subsequently to be erroneous, might constitute a ground for a charge of unequal conduct."

As a result of these representations no merchant vessels with armament have visited the ports of the United States since the 10th of September. In fact, from the beginning of the European war but two armed private vessels have entered or cleared from ports of this country, and as to these vessels their character as merchant vessels was conclusively established."

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Other Subjects Discussed.

The efforts of the State Department to obtain improvements in the censorship of commercial cablegrams constitutes a lengthy correspondence over a period of more than a year. The history of the formation of the Belgian relief commission and the part the United States government played in it is shown in a series of notes passing between Ambassador Gerard, Ambassador Page and Minister Whitlock.

The correspondence relating to the attempt of the German ship Odenwald to sail from San Juan, Porto Rico, without clearance papers furnishes another interesting chapter of the volume. The State Department's note in answer to the German government's complaint that the port authorities opened fire on the steamer without warning concludes, after a long review of the evidence, that "the United States authorities at San Juan, in the performance of their duties, avoided any act endangering the safety of the vessel and the lives of the persons on board, and exercised no greater force than was necessary to prevent the illegal departure of the Odenwald from the port of San Juan."

The case of August Piepenbrink, an American citizen of German birth, taken from an American vessel and held in high seas by the French cruiser Conde, was the subject of long exchanges. The Trent case in the civil war was cited as a basis for the American demand for the release of Piepenbrink. The text of a note from Foreign Minister Delcasse to Ambassador Sharp at Paris showed that Great Britain and France never admitted the American contention, although the prisoner was surrendered.

"The case of Piepenbrink was not really an American citizen, having only declared his intention to become naturalized," the State Department set forth the view that "there is no justification in international law for the removal of even an enemy's subject from a neutral vessel on the high seas bound to a neutral port even if he could properly be considered as a military person."

WANDERLUSTERS TO GATHER.

Arrangements Complete for Entertainment at Northeast Temple.

Arrangements have been completed for the wanderlust entertainment to be held Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock at the Northeast Masonic Temple, 523 8th street northeast. A program of songs and recitations, with brief remarks from some of the leaders, has been prepared. John Hardy is chairman of the committee on arrangements, and W. Palmer Hall and Miss Nellie Brosnan are in charge of the reception committee. The public is invited.

Under the leadership of John Boyle, Jr., a hike in the upper section of Rock Creek valley is to be taken Sunday afternoon starting at 2:30 o'clock from Georgia avenue and Butternut street.

DIVIDES HIS ESTATE.

Thomas Conway Leaves Much to Charity—John Cunningham's Will.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Aloysius Church and the Apostolic Mission House at Brookland are to divide the bulk of the estate of Thomas Conway, according to his will, dated May 21 last, and offered for probate. Other charitable bequests include \$200 to the Little Sisters of the Poor, \$200 to Gonzaga College and \$100 each to St. Ann's Infant Asylum and the House of the Good Shepherd. William H. McGinnis is to hold premises 437 Q street northwest in trust during the life of Michael Conway of Drumm, Ireland. On the death of the brother the property is to be conveyed to Della Mannix and Patrick McGrath. Other relatives are remembered with cash legacies.

By the terms of the will of John Cunningham, dated October 15, 1911, and filed for probate, small bequests of money are made to a number of relatives. The remaining estate is devised to Julia Hart, who is also named as executrix.

Secretary Wilson Talks in Baltimore.

Secretary Wilson of the Department of Labor made two speeches to Baltimore wage-earners last evening, one in Brith Sholem Hall and one in West End Theater. Mr. Wilson was under the escort of James W. Lewis. He returned to Washington late in the evening.

Orchestral Concert.
By the United States Soldiers' Home Band, John S. M. Zimmermann, director, in Stanley Hall, this evening at 6:45 o'clock:
March, "Lorraine".....Ganne
Overture, "The Feast of Lanterns".....Rollinson
Moreau, "Extase d'Amour".....Roze
(The Ecstasy of Love).....Herbert
Selection, "Madcap Duchess".....Waltz
An old-timer, "When You and I Were Young, Maggie".....Butterfield
Waltz suite, "Artist's Life".....Strauss
(Kuenstler Leben).....Johnson
Rag oddity, "Calico Rag".....Berlin
Finale, "I'm Going Back to the Farm".....Berlin
"The Star Spangled Banner."

O'GORMAN FOR SUFFRAGE.

New York Senator to Vote Against New Constitution.

NEW YORK, October 29.—United States Senator James A. O'Gorman announces that he will vote for woman suffrage and against the revised state constitution at the coming election.

"My sympathies go out to the women of the state who are complaining of the same denial of justice," he said. "I shall vote for the woman suffrage amendment."

The senator said the constitution was "undemocratic" and "autocratic."

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\$2 per pair

Our Famous "Kicker" Shoes for Boys

Dressy and very serviceable footwear. Just the thing for the children who are "Hard on Shoes." Outwear two pairs of the ordinary kinds.

Sizes 9 to 13½.....\$2 and \$2.50
Sizes 1 to 5½.....\$2.50 and \$3.00

For GIRLS

Misses' and Children's Patent Leather Shoes with cloth tops.

Sizes 11 to 2.....\$2.50 and \$3.00
Sizes 8 to 11.....\$2.00 and \$2.50
Sizes 2 to 8.....\$1.25 to \$2.00

Misses' and Children's Gun Metal School Shoes. Good, serviceable shoes that will stand hard knocks.

Sizes 11½ to 2.....\$1.50 to \$2.50
Sizes 8½ to 11.....\$1.25 to \$2.00
Sizes 4 to 8.....\$1.00 to \$2.00

Misses' and Children's White Canvas Buckskin, Patent Leather and White Calf Top.

Sizes 11½ to 2.....\$2.00 to \$3.50
Sizes 8½ to 11.....\$1.50 to \$2.50
Sizes 4 to 8.....\$1.50 to \$2.25
Sizes 1 to 5.....75c to \$1.25

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GYMNASIUM EVENTS PLEASE.

"Get-Together" for Men of Church of the Epiphany Congregation.

Basket ball games, boxing bouts and wrestling made up the program arranged last night for the entertainment of about 200 men of the congregation of the Church of the Epiphany, given in the gymnasium of the parish hall under the direction of Mark De Grange, physical director of the gymnasium. The affair was an inaugural planned to stimulate interest in the physical training work for the men of the parish. A short talk on the objects of the gymnasium was made by Director De Grange, after Rev. Percy Hall, assistant rector, had welcomed the visitors.

The basket ball game between picked teams from the parish athletes resulted in a score of 16 to 15. The winning team was composed of H. Ingley, R. Tabb, L. Bruebaker, F. Niedfeld and B. Dean.

The sparring bouts were between Ball and Cuffill, Callahan and Harper and Young and McCormick. Prof. Joseph Bateman, instructor of athletics at Fort Myer, introduced the boxers.

A wrestling match was drawn. Fleischaur and Laccovey being contestants. A "get-together" and sociable followed the events.

Julian Beard, formerly a member of the board of county commissioners of Anne Arundel county, Md., died at his home, at Chesterfield. He was fifty-eight years of age.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE WASHINGTON PUBLIC:

THE organization of the Congress Film Co., in which many local people are interested, has been completed, and we are now ready to enter upon a wide range of activity.

There is a steady and constant demand for high-class drama, the public demanding a higher grade of artistic productions, such as our company will endeavor to produce.

The organization provided for comprehends the centering in one producing plant of all the manifold activities of the motion picture field, each directed by an expert who has spent years in study and preparation for just this work, giving the institution an equipment at its inception possessed by few existing companies and certainly excelled by none.

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Walter C. Jordan, who will have charge of the distribution of our pictures in Europe as well as America, is managing director of the well known firm of Sanger & Jordan of New York, agents for the late Charles Frohman and the late George Edwards of London and controllers of the plays and productions of the best known American playwrights and producers. His entire lists of plays will be turned over to our company for production.

Robert Campbell of the Berkeley Theater, New York, son of the late Bartley Campbell, the famous playwright, will personally direct the production of "The White Slave," "Siberia," "Friend and Foe" and "My Geraldine," and will be the New York representative of the Congress Film Company.

Alex. A. Aarons, head of the Aarons Associated Theaters, will book our special and educational features throughout the United States.

We want the readers of this advertisement to own some of our stock and have a personal interest in the Congress Film Company, and only with their co-operation can we make Washington the home of one of the largest and best producing companies in the United States.

We are now offering a limited amount of our 7% Cumulative and Convertible Preferred stock at \$10.00 per share par value, carrying a 50% bonus in common stock.

It will interest you to know that from authentic statistics the information is obtained that during the year 1914 the earnings of the combined standard producing companies were over 60% on the amount of capital invested. The motion picture business now ranks as the fifth largest industry in the United States.

We would like to insist if you are interested that you call upon us and obtain full information and data concerning our plans of operation before investing.

Fred. Jackson, author of the successful plays, "A Pull House," "The Third Act," "The First Law," etc., and such other plays and novelettes as "The Masked Bride," "Red Robin" and "The Diamond Necklace," now appearing serially in the Argosy Magazine, heads the scenario department.

Frederick Mosen, F.R.G.S.—Artist, Explorer and Lecturer; formerly an official of the U. S. Geological Survey, will personally direct the Educational Department.

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